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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/774,234	01/31/2001	John R. Leitz		1127

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TRANSAT CORP.
C/O FRANZ SAUERLAND
31000 BAINBRIDGE RD.
SOLON, OH 44139

EXAMINER

VERSTEEG, STEVEN H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1753

DATE MAILED: 09/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/774,234

Applicant(s)

LEITZ

Examiner

Steven H VerSteeg

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-7 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3. 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Oath/Declaration

1. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

It does not identify the city and either state or foreign country of residence of each inventor. The residence information may be provided on either on an application data sheet or supplemental oath or declaration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
3. Claims 4 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
4. Claim 4 recites the limitation "the unequal ion flow" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
5. Claim 4 recites the limitation "the rows of shutters" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
6. Claim 8 recites the limitation "the interposed row of shutters" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are allowed.

8. Claims 4 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: it is neither anticipated nor obvious over the prior art of record to have an apparatus for frequency adjustment of piezoelectric resonators by ion etching as claimed by Applicant in claim 1 comprising an ion gun having a race-track shaped beam pattern including two straight-track portions and means for controlling the ion flow to the resonators.

10. It is also neither anticipated nor obvious over the prior art of record to have a method for frequency adjustment of piezoelectric resonators by ion etching as claimed by Applicant in claim 5 comprising facing the resonators with an ion gun having a race-track shaped beam pattern including two straight-track beam portions and controlling the ion flow to the resonators.

11. US 6,564,439 B1 to Takata et al. (Takata) and US 5,662,782 to Gomi et al. (Gomi) both disclose ion beam etching to process piezoelectric resonators, but neither suggests the ion gun to have a race-track beam pattern with two straight-track beam portions.

12. US 6,368,664 B1 to Veerasamy et al. (Veerasamy) discloses ion beam etching using an ion beam that passes through a mask so that the beam has a race-track pattern with two straight track portions (See Figure 10).

13. Modifying either Takata or Gomi with Veerasamy would produce an apparatus (or method) similar to that claimed by Applicant, but the race-track ion beam exposure provided by

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Veerasamy would not have additional means for controlling the ion flow other than the race-track producing mask. Applicant's claims require that the ion gun have a race-track shaped beam pattern as well as means for controlling the ion flow to the resonators. Takata or Gomi in view of Veerasamy would have one or the other, but not both.

14. It would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide both controlling of the ion flow to the resonators as well as a race-track ion beam exposure with two straight-track portions.

General Information

For general status inquiries on applications not having received a first action on the merits, please contact the Technology Center 1700 receptionist at (703) 308-0661.

For inquiries involving Recovery of lost papers & cases, sending out missing papers, resetting shortened statutory periods, or for restarting the shortened statutory period for response, please contact Palestine Jenkins at (703) 308-3521.

For general inquiries such as fees, hours of operation, and employee location, please contact the Technology Center 1700 receptionist at (703) 308-0661.

Conclusion

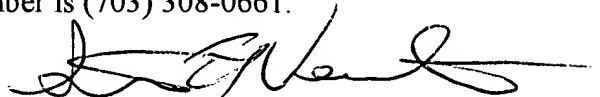
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven H VerSteeg whose telephone number is (703) 305-4473.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs (7:30 AM - 6:00 PM).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nam X Nguyen can be reached on (703) 308-3322. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.



Steven H VerSteeg
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1753

shv
September 2, 2003